BEFORE

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 97-065-C - ORDER NO. 97-228



MARCH 21, 1997

IN RE: Petition of Sprint Communications) ORDER
Company, L.P. for Arbitration of) GRANTING MOTION
Interconnection with BellSouth) TO WITHDRAW
Telecommunications, Inc.

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the Motion to Withdraw the Petition for Arbitration under the Telecommunications Act of 1996 filed by Sprint Communications Company, L.P. (Sprint or the Company). Sprint filed its Petition for Arbitration with BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. (BellSouth) on February 13, 1997. In its Petition, Sprint stated that although it had been in ongoing negotiations with BellSouth, that there were three unresolved issues. Accordingly, Sprint requested the Commission to issue a procedural Order establishing a hearing for this arbitration proceeding. Sprint and BellSouth continued negotiations during the period after the filing of the arbitration position, and have now resolved the three contested issues presented to the Commission for arbitration in Sprint's original Petition for Arbitration. Thus, no contested issues remain unresolved between the parties. BellSouth and Sprint have agreed that the issues presented by the Petition for Arbitration have

been resolved, and that Sprint should file its Motion to withdraw its Petition for Arbitration.

Having stated good cause for its Motion, the Commission therefore grants Sprint's Motion to Withdraw its Petition for Arbitration.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chairman

ATTEST:

Executive Director

(SEAL)